

## Waterbury Democrat

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 1940

### A Thought for Today

For I was an hungry, and ye gave me meat; I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger and ye took me in.—Matthew 25:35.

He that will not give some portion of his ease, his blood, his wealth for others' good, is a poor, frozen churl.—Joanna Baillie.

### Learning From Finland

It's a strange kind of war they're fighting in Finland — probably the strangest the modern world has ever seen. Finland is a comparatively small nation. It has less than 4,000,000 inhabitants. It prospered and progressed through the 1920s and 30s on the basis of a solid peacetime economy. It wasn't prepared for war in the sense that the greater European powers have been prepared during recent years. Its army was small, its equipment slight.

Finland's sole military advantage lay in its geographical position. And that advantage has become a tremendous thing, used to the fullest by astute military commanders. It is a strange war because Finland is fighting Russia these days largely with Russian equipment, arms and even ammunition. This is not the result of some sordid plot among munitions kings. Instead, the Russian equipment has been seized in the field from fleeing Soviet units or from fallen Reds.

Despite Finnish victories and capture of innumerable loads of Soviet paraphernalia, Finland still needs help. New and more efficient arms must be purchased if the Russians are to be staved off in the spring. War makes sudden ravages upon a nation's treasury, and money or credit becomes an imperative need.

Russia's sudden, ruthless thrust against the peaceful nation of the north has thrown all of Scandinavia into a quandary. Norway and Sweden are balanced precariously on a fence. Each would like to jump over to the Finnish side, but neither dares — not yet, at least. All of Scandinavia realizes that as long as Russia is pounding at Finland's door, the other nations are in danger.

Yet, to the south of Norway and Sweden, in a strategic position, lies Germany — threatening, powerful Germany. Germany is "neutral" in the Finnish war, as neutrals go. It recently refused to permit shipment of Italian planes to Finland through German territory. And, because of Germany's alliance with Russia, Hitler frowns upon an overt aid granted to Finland by either of the other major Scandinavian countries.

Apparently, if there's going to be any material aid to Finland, it must come from those nations not so directly concerned or from those which have nothing to fear from Germany. Britain, it is reported, has already agreed to supply planes. Italy is credited with having sent about 80 bombing planes. But European countries have no credit to spare.

This is where the United States comes in. Talk of a substantial loan to Finland is being freely supported by individual congressmen. Charitable aid from private Americans has helped to some degree, but not enough. Finland needs folding money, and lots of it. There is scant doubt that whatever can be done to aid this heroic country against invasion — and can be done neutrally — will meet the approval of the American public.

### Frank Gannett For President

If and when the electorate of the nation decides again to elect a Republican president, and perhaps it should unless so-called Democrat New Dealers can be made to see the error of their ways and once more return to normalcy, the name of Frank E. Gannett, publisher and statesman, looks like the nearest approach to what this country needs that has yet been proposed from the several Republican possibilities so far mentioned. We do not say this because Mr. Gannett happens to be a newspaperman, for we can recall some newspaper publisher's ambition for public office, who we would not recommend for the position of dog-warden of Oshkosh.

However, aside from Mr. Gannett's outstanding success as a publisher of a flourishing chain of newspapers, among which, one is Connecticut's own formidable and foremost newspaper, The Hartford Times, he has shown by his persistent and untiring efforts in moulding public sentiment to thwart government bureaucracy that he, as the saying goes, has got what it takes, to becomingly grace, if elected, the presidential chair.

So it's not with misgiving or any fear of apprehension that we look upon the candidacy of Frank Gannett so propitiously launched in Rochester, New York, Tuesday night. He steps into the arena of national politics as no unknown quantity as to his ability to work for the best interests of all of the people of this country should be elected. To his indomitable perseverance already goes much of the credit for blocking the packing of the Supreme Court back in 1938 and other contemplated New Deal legislation. We have no fear of any candidate, Democrat or Republican, of Frank Gannett's dimensions if elected president of the United States.

### Nazi Women Object

A story recently picked up by London newspapers told of a riot that broke out in Berlin among a group of women who had gathered to listen to Frau von Ribbentrop, wife of the Nazi foreign minister. According to the tale, Frau von Ribbentrop, arrayed in fashionable clothes, lectured to the Berlin women on how they could get along with a minimum of clothes. The audience resented the advice.

It is difficult to determine how much truth is embodied in such stories in wartime. Even British propagandists aren't averse to a bit of "dressing up" to put over a point. But the fact that German women are being compelled to get along not only on a paltry wardrobe but on frugal rations as well is widely known.

One must wonder how long women, placed under such restrictions, will remain meek. It is one thing to be sent into the army, given warm clothes and good food, stuffed with high-sounding ideologies: it is quite another to be kept at home with not enough food, few clothes, and nothing to do but wait.

### GOP Pays Up

With a new and arduous campaign year dawning, the Republican party has set about seriously straightening up its accounts and deficits left over from the 1936 campaign. According to a statement filed with Congress, \$655,000 was still outstanding on the 1936 obligation as of December 1. During the last year, the G. O. P. collected \$1,092,037, of which \$300,000 has been earmarked for debt retirement. Another \$200,000 has been pledged for this purpose. The pledged amounts, together with the earmarked fund, will very nearly wipe out the Republican debt.

It will be better to start off the 1940 campaign with a clean slate. There will be a lot of talk about budget-balancing. It will look much better if the G. O. P. can point proudly to its own books before suggesting that the United States balance its budget. Not until the ink on G. O. P. journals is a nice jet black can the boys really begin hammering.

We were interested in what Miss Kathleen Crowley, probation officer, had to say in her annual report as regards some of our unruly youth. There is always the problem of how to handle wayward and often deliberately mischievous children between the ages eleven to sixteen. And most of us are of the opinion that with all the corrective institutions, the advanced methods of handling youth, the better and better advantages, that children today are, a good many of them, holy terrors. We hate to pile it on, but this is so. A very good point brought out by Miss Crowley was that the offending children were not always from the poorer districts or where living conditions are not too good. On the contrary she said: "Malicious mischief and destruction of property are not confined to the young people of one group, and we had offenders from the ranks of the privileged and the underprivileged as well." The probation officer's report shows that damage to property by minors approached a very sizable sum this past year, about three hundred dollars damage done to one building alone. That spells quite a bit of mischief, if you want to call it mischief to the tune of three hundred dollars.

As our priests and ministers continually point out the shortcomings, faults and so on of children goes right back to parents. Naturally there are types of children that will never be curbed by the best of parents, but it is true today that many parents are quite indifferent to the actions of their children in the home, outside the home, in school and when invading other people's property. It strikes us that one thing missing in the attitude of child to parent, to teacher, the many superiors, and more important still to God. That thing is fear.

We do not refer to that physical fear that a youngster sometimes experiences when he finds himself in the dark, or listening to radio's "shadow", or looking at the screen's horrible Quasimodo who swung on the belfry of Notre Dame. No, we refer to a fear that is more moral, fear of offending, because it is wrong to seriously offend God and man.

Just to take your minds off chaotic affairs in Europe, economic difficulties at home and so on, you might consider the debatable subject: Should or should not the quintuplets be featured at the New York World's Fair of 1940.

### Selected Poem

#### WATCHING THE TRAIN

(Clara Bell Thurston in the Christian Science Monitor)

I love the Railroad Station  
With its engines big and black.  
Each shining bright and full of steam,  
Just waiting on the track.

The News-boys all come running,  
As if they might be late.  
A man shouts "Show your tickets, please,"  
Then lets you through the gate.

Porters rush with heavy loads,  
And suddenly you hear,  
"All aboard!" The train starts off,  
You watch it disappear.

Then home you go with mother,  
While you talk about the train.  
And she says, if you're good, praps  
She'll take you there again.

#### Daily Almanac

Moon sets 12:48 a. m.  
Sun rises 7:14 a. m.; sets 4:51 p. m.  
All vehicles must be lighted thirty minutes after sunset.

Clear, cold weather is not bad, if you can stand the cold outside and have the warmth to keep the home well-heated. It's far healthier than milder weather with its thaws and wet ground underneath that we so often experience in January.

## In New York

By GEORGE ROSS

New York, January 18. — First nights: When a critic bites a producer, it passes as an ordinary morsel like breakfast cereal. But when a producer bites back, that newswriter has been punched around by irate show people, but seldom, as in the current case of critic John Anderson, have late showmen threatened to settle a score with a libel suit in court.

And such litigation seems imminent. The plaintiff is that rotund, show-business, cosmopolitan Clifford C. Fischer, who firmly believes that he and his show, the Follies Bergere, have been maligned to the point of libel by critic Anderson. His principal plaintiff is that the critic referred to his show (which is still running on Broadway) as guilty of "blatant vulgarity." These words, one infers, cut Fischer, his troupe and his press agent to the quick.

Sure, there are nudes presented in varied poses throughout the Follies Bergere and the theme is frankly risqué. But, says Fischer, that does not make it either blatant or vulgar.

#### MR. THURBER'S AMBITION

No one is going to be sued for what the critics said of James Thurber's and Elliott Nugent's new show, "The Male Animal." For with the exception of a single, mild dissenter, the general chorus was "Bravo!"

You've encountered Thurber's mad, nightmarish essays and drawings in the magazines. He is the gent who hears seals barking in the night and draws every dog with ears flapping down to the ground.

The show he wrote with Nugent is somewhat in that spirit, telling a crack-brained story of the college professor who can't quite bravely face the world. You get some idea of Thurber's mental state by reflecting on what he told a friend who asked him what his next ambition was, now that he is a successful artist, essayist and playwright.

"Next," replied Thurber, "I'd like to be able to play a contra-bassoon."

"Why?" his friend asked.

"Well," said Thurber, "I've always been crazy about ships' engine rooms and a contra-bassoon reminds me of them."

Such madness is profitable. "The Male Animal" is a hit, the "Male Animal" is a hit, the "Male Animal" is a hit, the "Male Animal" is a hit, the "Male Animal" is a hit.

When Robeson offers a concert at Carnegie Hall, there are sell-outs long before the eventful evening and the admirers of his mighty singing voice run into the millions.

But drama critics are not impressed by such musical worship. They didn't like "John Henry" and Robeson baritone or no, they said so with that blunt-edged candor at which they excel.

So the Broadway death watch wrote John Henry's obituary. Not even Paul Robeson's voice could keep the show alive.

### HIGHLIGHTS FROM LATEST BOOKS

Writer Sees Importance of War in Orient

The war in China is "old stuff" by now, blacked out by the "ars" in Europe. But if you think it's not as significant, you ought to read "China at War" by Freda Utley (John Day: \$3.75). Miss Utley is a British newspaperwoman, and she has returned from a first-hand study of the Chinese struggle against the Japs.

She talked with generals and soldiers alike, saw fighting, rode with the wounded. The result is a highly personalized, vital account of this blood-letting in the Far East. The book is not a mere chronicle of events, but a study of the Chinese struggle against the Japs.

Intent on the troubles of Europe, fearful of the war which may engulf the western hemisphere, we hardly heed the rumble of the distant drums in the Far East, yet the fate of China's four hundred millions may well seem to the historian of the future the most important event of the early twentieth century.

It may well be that the future of the world is now being decided on the Yangtze and Yellow Rivers rather than on the Rhine or the Vistula, or in the conference halls of Europe.

Japan aims at world conquest, and her rulers have the singleness of purpose to accomplish it, but neither the requisite man power nor the material resources, unless they can incorporate China into their empire.

If China's millions should ever be militarized, either by Japan or in a long struggle to resist her, the world would be faced by a military menace besides which the might of Germany would pale to insignificance. As General Smuts once said: "It may well be that Western civilization will stand or fall in this matter of its contacts with the immense human masses of the East."

Should the Chinese despair of the Western democracies who continue to supply Japan with the sinews of war, and should they decide to submit to the Japanese yoke, Japan might become the strongest power in the world.

#### ODD TAX PROTEST MADE

Spartanburg, S. C. (UP)—A city resident protested having to pay the annual street tax in Spartanburg. He said he served 11 of the last 12 months working on city streets as a member of the chain gang.

## 'You Wish to Report Something Lost?'



## Washington Merry-Go-Round

By DREW PEARSON

ROBERT S. ALLEN

WASHINGTON, January 18. — Under Robert Houghwout Jackson there will be a very important shift in the crusading activities of the Justice Department. Murphy concentrated his fire on corrupt politicians. Jackson will train his guns on the powers behind the politicians — business and utility interests.

This does not mean that the "pols" will be neglected. They need not go for any letup. Jackson is hoping after them just as vigorously as Murphy did, and one of the first places on the list to be tackled is boss-ridden Atlantic City.

Behind this shift in emphasis are two factors.

THE FIRST is that Jackson is less political-minded than Murphy. Jackson is a relative newcomer in politics and has never held an elective office. Murphy has been against politicians since he was a boy.

THE SECOND is Jackson's strong economic orientation. Like Murphy, he too has a long crusading career but his crusades have been against business powers.

As a striking lawyer just out of school in Jamestown, N. Y., he defended a group of street car strikers when they couldn't get another attorney. A few years later he took the legal cudgel for the local independent telephone company against the giant A. T. & T. and licked it.

As a 40-year-old assistant attorney general he waded into the mighty Aluminum Corporation of America with anti-trust charges, and followed this up with a tax evasion suit against the late Andrew W. Mellon, former secretary of the treasury and ruler of the aluminum field.

In the last two years, as solicitor general, Jackson has hung up the greatest record of supreme court victories on major economic issues in the history of the tribunal.

#### ASSOCIATED GASP

Jackson believes that at the root of political corruption are economic forces. He is determined to take these machines and keep them in power. As attorney general his basic policy will be to strike at these hidden forces, and you can write it down that there will be plenty of action.

They may not be spectacular, because Jackson dislikes personal publicity, but they will be the kind that hurt. He won't call "Jack the giant killer" in Jamestown for nothing. There will be no private conferences with defendants nor talks about compromises.

One of Jackson's first economic offensives will be in the direction of the \$800,000,000 Associated Gas & Electric Co., which went into bankruptcy last year when the Securities and Exchange Commission refused to permit officials to tap the till for a dividend payment.

The group ruling the A. G. & E. roost filed the bankruptcy petitions in a federal court in the little city of Union in upstate New York. This court has had no experience in handling such immense trustships. A. G. & E. investors, backed by SEC and Justice Department, are remanding that the case be brought to Manhattan, where the chief offices of the corporation are located and where there are experienced judges.

It's an inner Administration secret, but Jackson dug into the A. G. & E. situation before he took over the reins as attorney general, and some of his advisers are urging that certain criminal proceedings be launched in the not distant future.

NOTE — Legal adviser of A. G. & E. executive is Jackson's former superior, ex-Attorney General Homer Cummings.

#### POLITICAL-GO-ROUND

You don't hear anything about him, but behind the scenes Frank O. Lowden, former governor of Illinois and during the 1920 the midwest's candidate for the presidency, is active in the GOP campaign picture. Middle West leaders are beating a path to his door to discuss various aspirants, and to get aid and advice on the now active movement to organize a bloc for united action at the convention.

Dr. Francis Townsend is bent on forcing congressmen to undergo another show of

hands on his old-age pension plan before election time. He is planning to have one of his House followers introduce a discharge petition in order to compel a roll-call vote on his bill. . . . Another prominent clergyman who has joined the opposition to continuing the Dies committee is Rev. Walter E. Cole, of Toledo, O., dynamic director of the Unitarian Fellowship for Social Justice.

#### 'LARRUPIN' LOU

One of the most familiar "pressure boys" on Capitol Hill is roly-poly, apple-cheeked Louis B. Ward, Father Coughlin's Washington generalissimo. Also, he is one of the most mysterious.

Last year when he was actively lobbying for the Coughlin-backed "cost of production" farm bill, Ward vigorously denied he had any connection with the radio priest. Ward's story was that he was for Coughlin's bill, but wasn't working for him.

Congressional veterans who have watched Ward's operations for a number of years were skeptical. But he was very emphatic. "I am not a representative of Father Coughlin," he insisted, "nor am I on his payroll."

When this session opened, one of the earliest lobby birds on the scene was Ward. Breezy as ever and sporting a big white cowboy hat, he was on hand again pumping hard for the Coughlin farm measure. But this time it will be difficult for him to deny any Royal Oak connection, for on the masthead of Father Coughlin's weekly now appears the "Editorial Director, Louis B. Ward."

NOTE — Since his appearance

in the breath-taking sombrero, Ward has been nicknamed in the congressional cloakrooms, "Larrupin' Lou."

#### LITTLE OVERSIGHT

When Congress last summer rushed through that \$328,500 bill giving each member a new clerk, the boys made one slight oversight. In their hurry to jam through the pork grab with as little fuss as possible, they forgot to appropriate money to provide the necessary office furniture and typewriters for the additional employees. As a result they are now bombarding House Clerk Southworth with clamors for the equipment.

But with no money for that purpose Trimble can't help them. Some have proposed to him that he dig into the "contingent fund" of the House. But Trimble, a veteran of many years service on Capitol Hill, is taking no chances. It will cost at least \$50,000 to buy the needed equipment and he's not going out on a limb that size.

"This isn't my baby," he tells them. "I didn't vote these extra clerks."

#### NOTE

Some congressmen are using the additional \$1,500-a-year clerk hire, which was justified on the ground that military clerical help was needed in their Washington offices, to employ political assistants in their home towns to look after their political fences.

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## Views of The Press

#### JOINING THE LAW

(New Haven Journal-Courier)  
The game of "cops and robbers" in some form will probably always be popular among small fry who like to whoop it up.

It has occurred to law enforcement authorities in recent years that the more "cops" they have among the neighborhood gangs, the fewer "robbers" they will have in real life as well as in play. Junior police boy patrols and the like have sprung up in cities and towns all over the country, and juvenile authorities have noted encouraging results.

A 12-year-old who is really well get into trouble. His honor is at stake. With swaggering boyishness, he uses his authority to keep other lads out of the juvenile court. The town of Homewood, Ala., "swoon" in some 30 junior "cops" just before last Halloween, and the trembling burghers enjoyed the most peaceful Halloween in the history of the town. The kids who weren't on the police force were too harassed by the juvenile "cops" to get into mischief. The whole system works out much better, and that day next year will be March 4, which is the exact anniversary of its admission to the Union. This happy coincidence should enable the sequentennial committee to elicit the needed cooperation from the member towns to insure a fitting celebration.

#### VERMONT'S 150TH BIRTHDAY

(Hartford Courant)  
The Vermont State Chamber of Commerce has announced that preparations are under way to make a gala occasion of the 150th birthday of the state in 1941. Through the years Vermont has observed the wise custom of holding all town meetings on a single day, and that day next year will be March 4, which is the exact anniversary of its admission to the Union. This happy coincidence should enable the sequentennial committee to elicit the needed cooperation from the member towns to insure a fitting celebration.

Although not one of the original thirteen states, Vermont has the dis-

tinction of being the first territory admitted to the Union after the adoption of the Constitution; significantly, its bill of rights carried a clause providing for the abolition of slavery. History shows that its road to statehood was by no means easy.

Before the separate settlements could declare their independence and adopt a state constitution, finally framed in 1777, they endured territory grabs on the part of Massachusetts, New Hampshire and New York, whose claims were imposingly supported by edicts from the British crown.

The Revolution, of course, gave Vermonters the opportunity to secure their boundaries, although the people understandably hesitated in deciding whether the king or the colonies would best guarantee their liberty.

Connecticut, in particular, should have a keen interest in Vermont's birthday party, for at one time there was serious thought of naming the state New Connecticut. Furthermore, it is a foregone conclusion that the pageantry of the sequentennial celebration will feature the exploits of the Green Mountain boys and their leader, Ethan Allen, who was born in Litchfield.

#### DOUBLE ORCHID

Mary Boland, whose hobby is growing rare orchids, took a double bloom to Jeanette MacDonald on the set of "New Moon."

## Questions and Answers

By FREDERICK M. KERRY

Send a three-cent stamp for reply when addressing any question of fact or information to the Waterbury Democrat Service Bureau at Washington. Legal and medical advice cannot be given, nor can extended research be undertaken. Be sure all mail is addressed to THE WATERBURY DEMOCRAT'S SERVICE BUREAU, 1013 Thirteenth Street, Washington, D. C.

THE EDITOR

Q. What will prevent a bare steel surface from rusting?  
A. A method of preserving a steel surface which is usually effective is to coat it with petroleum which has been boiled to drive off any moisture or acid constituents. There are also commercial products on the market.

Q. How many safety pins are manufactured in the United States annually?  
A. The 1937 Census of Manufactures reported 11,336,752 gross, valued at \$1,509,969.

Q. Does the fact that Matthew Arnold was one of thirteen at dinner and died the same year lend weight to the superstition which predicts a death within a year if thirteen sit at table?  
A. No. If fourteen or fifteen or a greater number of middle-aged persons had sat at the table, the chances for the death of one of them within a year would have actually been increased.

Q. Why does a drop of water cling to the center of the bottom of an inverted glass bottle of a water cooler?  
A. For the same reason that small raindrops cling to a windowpane; because the glass is not clean enough for water to wet it readily. Capillary forces resist the advance of a drop over a surface that is not well wetted by liquid.

Q. To whom were the first air-mail contracts awarded in the United States?  
A. The first contracts were with private commercial airlines granted October 15, 1920; one to Edward Hubbard to carry mail from Seattle to Victoria, British Columbia; and another to the Florida West Indies Airways, Inc., to carry mail from Miami to Cuba.

Q. When did President Wilson say that he would "keep us out of war"?  
A. The principal slogan used in President Wilson's 1916 campaign for re-election was "He kept us out of war." It was the slogan chosen by the Democratic party campaign managers and was not a quotation from President Wilson, but rather a suggestion that his policies and acts had prevented the United States from being drawn into the war during his first term.

Q. Why are no quotations on Russian currency given on foreign exchange markets?  
A. There is no free market in Russian exchange because it is illegal under Soviet law for any Soviet citizen to export or import Russian currency. The only foreign exchange transactions are conducted by instrumentalities of the Soviet government, and hence private exchange transactions do not exist.

Q. What colleges have green and gold as their colors?  
A. Baylor University, Waco, Tex., and the University of Vermont, Burlington, Vt. There may be other schools that use those colors.

If you want a copy of the booklet "HOUSEWIFE'S MANUAL" send to The Waterbury Democrat's Washington Bureau, 1013 Thirteenth Street, Washington, D. C. Enclose 10 cents in postage.

### What's Your I. Q.?

Can you answer seven of these test questions? Turn to last page for the answers.

1. Where in the Bible is the Golden Rule?
2. Who participated in a famous series of debates with Abraham Lincoln?
3. Name the large German liner that was recently scuttled about 400 miles off the Atlantic coast of the U. S.
4. When should salad be served at a formal dinner?
5. Is "Treasure Island" by Robert Louis Stevenson, fiction?
6. Name the capital of Tahiti.
7. Name the commander of the U. S. cruiser Tuscaloosa.
8. Who was runner-up to Sam Snead in the Miami Open golf tournament?
9. How many stories high is the R. C. A. Building in New York City?
10. What use is made of ambergris?

### Current Comment

No American citizen should be denied the right to advocate changes in the structure of the government.

—Representative William B. Bankhead (Dem., Ala.), speaker of the House.

The relations of the Finnish people with the Soviet Union are a matter that concerns only the Finnish and Soviet peoples alone. Other powers have no right to interfere.

—Premier Vyacheslav.

### COMPARE

THE COST OF MONEY ORDERS WITH THE COST OF OUR

"AUTO-CHEK" ACCOUNTS

MONEY ORDERS		AUTO-CHEK	
\$ 0.01 to \$ 2.50	6c	\$ 0.01 to \$ 2.50	5c
\$ 2.51 to \$ 5.00	8c	\$ 2.51 to \$ 5.00	5c
\$ 5.01 to \$ 10.00	10c	\$ 5.01 to \$ 10.00	5c
\$ 10.01 to \$ 25.00			